

By Lenton Olson

H.S.R. No. 22

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Bobby Loyd Thomas, McLennan County
2 Judge and a former member of this body, was recently named by the
3 United States Jaycees as one of America's 10 Outstanding Young
4 Men of 1973; and

5 WHEREAS, Born 35 years ago in the Hill County community of
6 Birome, Bob Thomas is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Thomas of
7 Waco; while a student at Waco High School, he was struck at the
8 age of 15 by polio; and

9 WHEREAS, Although he has been confined to a wheelchair since
10 then, this courageous young man's determination to live a fruitful
11 life has netted him one goal after another; and

12 WHEREAS, The top graduate of the 1960 class of the Baylor
13 University School of Law, Bob Thomas again excelled by posting
14 the highest score among his classmates on the state bar examination
15 in March, 1961; and

16 WHEREAS, This promising young attorney also received a
17 degree in accounting and, after specializing in tax law with a
18 Waco law firm, quickly established a successful general practice
19 of his own; and

20 WHEREAS, Although he was unsuccessful in his initial bid
21 in 1964 for a seat in the Texas House of Representatives, he did
22 become a state representative after winning election two years
23 later; during his legislative service, he won the admiration of
24 colleagues and constituents alike and was reelected to his house

1 seat in 1968; and

2 WHEREAS, Desiring to serve the people more directly at a
3 local level, this dedicated lawmaker ran for the office of County
4 Judge of McLennan County in 1970 and received an overwhelming 75
5 percent of the total vote cast; and

6 WHEREAS, Judge Thomas has long been involved in a great
7 number of important civic, religious, charitable, and professional
8 activities in addition to his continuing work for good government
9 at all levels; and

10 WHEREAS, he has been honored repeatedly during his career
11 of public service; in recognition of his exceptional achievements
12 in the face of a crippling handicap and in appreciation of the
13 example he set for all people, Judge Thomas was selected as the
14 Outstanding Handicapped Wacoan of 1961; and

15 WHEREAS, In another act of recognition, the city of Waco
16 proclaimed September 26, 1968, as "Bob Thomas Day," asking the
17 citizens of Waco to "join with the Texas Bar Association and the
18 Waco Jaycees in honoring State Representative Bob Thomas for his
19 outstanding contributions as a member of the house Criminal
20 Jurisprudence Committee working on revisions of the Code of
21 Criminal Procedure"; and

22 WHEREAS, Two years ago, the Waco Civitan Club presented
23 Judge Thomas with its coveted Citizenship Award, and the Texas
24 Jaycees named him one of Texas' Five Outstanding Young Men of
25 1971; and

26 WHEREAS, Judge Thomas is a source of tremendous pride to
27 his family, his community, and his colleagues in public service;

1 now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 63rd
3 Legislature of the State of Texas congratulate the Honorable Bobby
4 Loyd Thomas, McLennan County Judge, on being named one of America's
5 10 Outstanding Young Men of 1973 by the United States Jaycees and
6 commend him on his many other well-deserved honors and awards;
7 and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, under the Seal
9 of the Texas House of Representatives, be prepared for Judge
10 Thomas as an expression of recognition from the members of this
11 body and all the people of this state.